

NU HOU DALA PAA

NEWS FROM THE HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB

VOL. 8 NO. 22

MAY 25, 1988

HSNA Hawaiian Endangered Wildlife Series No. 2



The second of the Hawaiian Endangered Wildlife Series features a bird of prey on the obverse of the wooden token. The Hawaiian hawk or 'io as it is called in Hawaiian, may be seen in the forest slopes of Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa of the island of Hawaii.

The hawk feeds on rodents, insects, and small birds and is sometimes found near the open grasslands and canefields in search of food.

The reverse of the wooden token pictures the wood rose, a green vine pod plant, with strong shoots that spread rampantly and climbs high into fences, trees, etc. It has a beautiful yellow flower, a morning-glory that blooms, then drops. Then a calyx begins to develop. Soon shaping like a rose and at the same time begins to dry, turning into a "wood rose," that is stiff and brown. Some of these wood rose vines can be seen growing on the round top of Tantalus Drive, overlooking the hills towards the side of the University of Hawaii.



Nothing to do?

Bring a friend and join
a Coin Club! You may discover
new things and good fortune in your life!

H. C. C. Junior Club Organized

BY SUSANNA HUNT



On February 10, 1988, at 7:30 p.m., the Honolulu Coin Club formed the first Junior's Club. Under club advisor, Mr. Dan Garrett, the juniors held their first meeting and elected officers.

the 1988 officers are: President, Susanna Hunt; Vice-President, Jason Len; Secretary, Esmond Takeshita; and Treasurer, Dannie Garrett, Jr.

There are presently 15 members in our club. Our club meets every second and fourth Wednesday of each month, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Susannah Wesley Community Center at 1117 Kaili Street.

We are cordially inviting all club members and their guests to bring their children to our regular meetings. The junior membership fee is free. The Junior's Club is in the process of seeking new members.

At present the juniors first major goal is to strike a wooden token before the end of the year to commemorate its founding. The club will become self-sufficient through Coke and coin sales and planned car washes. This will enable us to undertake many possible activities during the year.

MONDAY MORNING CREW

BY IRVING KAM

With the conclusion of the Sunday evening banquet, so ends another Hawaii State Numismatic Association Convention. Collectors return to their normal stations in life while the dealers move on to their next place of business. But for a small handful of people, there's still lots more to be done. On a day which is probably the most tiresome, they donate yet another eight hours of vacation time oftentimes forego one more day's pay. A very special mahalo is extended to Enosito Barbadillo, Donald Eguchi, Irving Kam, Charlie Matsuda, Warner Pukini, Crane Saito, Alban Sasabuchi, Wah Kui Young, and, of course, H.S.N.A. Honcho Marion Kendrick.

Thanks again, gentlemen. Your extra efforts are always needed and much appreciated. We couldn't do it without all of you—you're very SPECIAL!

HONOLULU COIN CLUB

Presidents' Message

BY GREGORY HUNT

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Honolulu Coin Club, may I extend my warmest mahalo nui loa for an excellent year. Each member must take a bow. The club has really grown since its founding more than 33 years ago. At present, we have about 300 paid members, 15 juniors, and over 50 members attending bi-monthly meetings regularly.

Last year we participated in many hobby-type activities. We started off the year with an excellent presentation on Hawaiian Coins by coin dealer, Don Medcalf; held the Mini-HSNA/Honolulu Coin Club show in May; the Statehood Show in August; and the HSNAs show in November. This was all culminated by the largest ever Christmas party. There were about 100 members and their families who attended the event held at Victoria inn on December 12, 1987. I would like to personally thank each and every coin dealer who gave a contribution to the prizes that were won by members.

In 1988, I expect bigger and better things. The most important thing for me has been the formulation of an active and strong Junior's program. In this respect, I have appointed Mr. Dan Garrett to start the ball rolling. To my ecstatic surprise, the Juniors have already met and formed its own club as of February, 1988. My sincere congratulations to the members and officers. I feel the membership will be stronger and wiser for this endeavor. Please help continue this winning tradition because I believe that family is the most important glue—binding membership together.

In closing this message to the membership, please let me remind you that this is the Hawaii State Numismatic Association's 25th anniversary. Please help us support our hobby by getting involved in this show. This show will be one of the main highlights for this year. Show dates are November 10-13, 1988, at the Queen Kapiolani Hotel.

HONOLULU COIN CLUB

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MATSUDA AWARD

BY IRVING KAM

Congratulations are in order for Wah Kui Young as the recipient of the Charles A. Matsuda Merit Award for the year 1987. While accepting the koa plaque at the Hawaii State Numismatic Association's banquet in November, the standing ovation he received served as proof of his unselfish dedication and immunity to hard work.

Created and designed by Irving Kam, this award is presented every other year to express the deep appreciation for the outstanding efforts a deserving member has afforded the Club.

Wah Kui has certainly pulled more than his share of the load consistently over a long period of time and it's good to see someone acknowledged for such devotion.

Again, congratulations.

Coin Club Newsletter



NEWS FROM THE HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB

APRIL 8, 1981

VOL. 1 NO. 1

1981 WOODEN TOKEN HONORS KAM III & PEARL HARBOR



The Honolulu Coin Club is honoring King Kamehameha III in its fifth issue with a wooden token.

Kamehameha III was the ruler of the Hawaiian islands from 1824-1854 and is the son of Kamehameha the Great. Kamehameha III reigned to the throne for thirty years, longest in the history of Hawaii. He was the great Mahele dividing the land with the people receiving their share.

On the reverse side of the token, we are commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The token will be sold for 25c at the Honolulu Coin Club Show on August 22nd. It will also be available after the show at 25c plus SASE by submitting your payment and request to the Honolulu Coin Club, P. O. Box 6063, Honolulu, HI 96818.

Join a Coin Club!
coin collecting
can be fun!

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JAPAN'S FAMOUS WOODCARVING ARTIST JOINS CLUB

Ikkoku Tanaka, a wood carver from Japan, joined the Honolulu Coin Club recently. He is a master artist in his work and is commissioned by the Emperor of Japan and the Japanese government to do many of the art work in his country. He is noted for his realistic and intricate work which has made him world renowned.

The members of the Club have voted Mr. Tanaka as an honorary life member. We also appreciate his generous donations to the Club.

The Honolulu Coin Club and the Hawaii State Numismatic Association newsletter is entering its 8th year in publications. We will like to hear comments from our readers

Talking Story

BY IRVING KAM



The morning sky was nearly devoid of clouds as the bright sun dissipated a light chill that formed during the night. The resulting warmth carried over as I was greeted by and upon entering the home of Ralph Brown, coin enthusiast and vecturist. I've been most fortunate in that while doing over a dozen or so installments of these "Talking Story" episodes, everyone has been sincerely cordial and informally unpretentious. Ralph proved no different, for soon our conversation was easily flowing from anything collectible to personal accounts having nothing to do with coins that we both decided to be unprintable. In the process, I did learn, however, that he started through a neighborhood friend during the last coin boom era. Many transactions were executed at the then still operating "Pearlridge Stamp and Coin" in Pearl City and mainly in the form of non-silver world coins. First, by the piece, and eventually by the pound. Later as the price of precious metals returned to a more rational level, he started getting in to the silver issues of the United States as well as the world. A quarter or a half of a bag was acquired to sift through in hopes of filtering out the better singles and dates. An escapade that rescued numerous high-grade Mercury dimes, Standing Liberty quarters, and Walking Liberty halves from the melting pot, which actually paid for the hobby at the time.

The progression was steady and on an even keel when Ralph discovered what was to become his number one passion, transportation tokens. He is a member of the American Vecturist Association and its auxiliary organization, the New Issue Club. The latter specializes and makes available to its membership the many recent offerings from various companies and an interesting observation is that much of the tokens are now made of plastic. I recall visiting Ralph a couple of years ago to negotiate a coin deal and I remember viewing his collection of tokens—ten black double row boxes packed tight and all different. Since then the collection has grown to 13 boxes and numbers somewhere in the vicinity of 3,000-plus individual pieces. He's come to realize that the people who share his enthusiasm for this area of collecting, are down-to-earth nice people who are not out to make a killing and, so, transportation tokens can be relatively inexpensive. Also, they are quick to pass on knowledge and, besides, many well researched publications are readily available to aid the new collector in identification.

Over lunch in the Aiea Shopping Center, we discussed the hobby's generalities which included the young numismatist and the business end of coins. Ralph's presence at the Honolulu Coin Club meetings is evident and very conspicuous only in his absence. When one walks through the door of the meeting room at the Susannah Wesley Community Center, his table is almost always to the left. The one laden with folders, tubes, boxes, and books of coins or various assorted exnumia. It's always fun rummaging through his aggregation of medals, tokens, paper items, and coin or costume jewelry. Perhaps a silver lighter, or a hand-carved ivory netsuke, or the metal Occupied Japan ash tray I purchased some years ago, all find their way to his table. Preferring to be known basically as a junk coin dealer, he stresses that his prices are never firm and invites anyone to sit down and talk about it. Says Ralph, "Lots of time, I've taken a loss on a coin to make somebody else happy." The main criteria here is to keep it light and have some fun. It's a self-supporting hobby when things are going good,

but it's always an on-going hobby too. You can put it away when you need to and go back later without having to worry much about it. "I'm just like the other collectors waiting for the market to move ahead, but I'm not losing any sleep over it."

For the newcomers to our world of metals and mintages, Ralph advises that they follow the old adage of buying the book before the coin. Study and ask questions. Try talking to all the dealers that you can and find the ones you feel will suit your needs. Someone who is reputable that maybe a seasoned collector can recommend without hesitation. He also feels that you should not buy everything at first but to pick a coin and specialize.

Some of the coin designs Ralph likes are the Indian Head cents, Mercury dimes, Walking Liberty halves, and Morgan dollars of the United States. He thinks the coinages of Bermuda and the Bahamas are beautiful, while the "Fertility" dollar of the Cook Islands is a fun coin and so are any that are counter struck. The book entitled the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*, by Chester Krause and Clifford Mishler, is a superior source of information. Included are valuations, bullion values, dating, identification, conversion charts, mintages, mint and privy marks, photos, and so much more.

Ralph also says to "not worry about the high grade coins as ninety to ninety-five percent of the collectors cannot afford the so called better stuff any way. A general warning he offers is to beware of those advertisements in newspapers and magazines from companies with official sounding names or private mints. Many times the already over-priced material sounds too good to be true and in most cases, it is. Eventually when they find out the actual worth of their purchase, the natural reaction is to become embittered and react negatively against the hobby.

After lunch and back at Ralph's house, he consented to let me buy a few things for myself but only if I hauled all that stuff out and put it back after I was through. Let me say that it was quite a chore. But I did manage to find a handful of material I can use, and at advantageous prices. Later, he had me grading a few boxes of Morgan and Peace dollars that he had just bought, and while I was doing this, he mentioned a few names that help him now as well as when he started. After the Hickam Coin Club disbanded, he relocated to the Honolulu Coin Club where Wah Kui Young and Francis Loo made him feel at home, spent time with him, even though it was just "nickel and dime stuff." James Kinoshita of the "Downtown Coin Gallery" has been "most kind" and always extends a very reasonable price. He also shows interest in anybody, regardless of age and spending capabilities. the Medcalfs, Gordon ("Island Coins and Stamps") and Don ("Hawaiian Islands Stamp and Coin"), Gary Lau, and someone named Irving Kam, for the much appreciated help with things Hawaiiana.

Ralph, although retired from the United States Navy, allots little time for himself. Searching for additional material or collectibles, as well as coins, takes up the better part of a day. As a member of the Moanalua Community Church, he volunteers for whatever requires doing around its grounds and always makes himself available to people with genuine needs—like running errands for terminally ill patients or driving them around. Going every which way to gather church donations and picking up mail for out-of-town people. Even the general upkeep on his house and yard, including the wonderful fish pond, appears to be a full-time job in itself. He does find time, however, to hoist a few or have a 7-Up with the "youngsters" at his favorite watering hole. The unselfishness is just a natural characteristic of Ralph, and it shows in his dealings within the hobby he's chosen and with the collectors who choose to know him. Thanks for everything, Ralph! Aloha! Pau.



Do you know that Hawaii has the distinction of being the only state in the union with its name "overprinted" on U.S. paper money? This occurred during World War Two when Hawaii faced the threat of invasion by Japan. The money was "overprinted" so that it could be declared void in case of the invasion. The reason I had to specifically say "overprinted" is because there are 11 other states whose names appear regularly on our paper money. The next time that you have a few minutes to spare and money in your wallet, look them over. First, notice the Federal Reserve (black seal) that is located on the left center of the Federal Reserve note. There is a large letter in the center of the seal and it is circled by the name (city) of the Federal Reserve Bank and the state where it is located. There are 12 districts with designated letters as follows:

- A — Boston, Massachusetts
- B — New York, New York
- C — Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- D — Cleveland, Ohio
- E — Richmond, Virginia
- F — Atlanta, Georgia
- G — Chicago, Illinois
- H — St. Louis, Missouri
- I — Minneapolis, Minnesota
- J — Kansas City, Missouri

- K — Dallas, Texas
- L — San Francisco, California

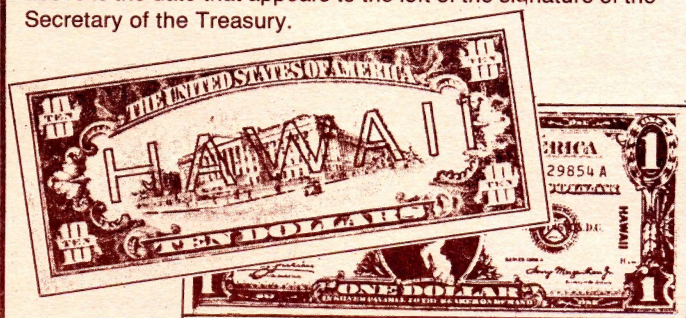
Although there are 12 districts, there are only 11 different states involved because Missouri has two of the districts.

Hawaii is within the San Francisco Federal Reserve District so all of our new currency officially comes from that district. Therefore, most of the notes that you handle will have the "L" seal. Notes bearing other letters are brought here by tourists, military personnel, and other visitors from the mainland U.S. So every time that you see one of the other letters on your notes, you will know that someone came and spent it here in Hawaii to benefit our local economy. Also, some of the "L" notes came here with visitors from the western states because those states are also served by the San Francisco Federal Reserve District.

Now for something more interesting. Observe the two signatures on the note. The signature on the left is that of the Treasurer of the United States. The first Treasurer served from July 29, 1775, to September 11, 1789. He was a man and each successor was male until the appointment of Georgia Neese Clark by President Truman in 1949. Since then all succeeding Treasurers have been female. One of these women made history when she got married while holding the office of Treasurer. When she first took office on May 8, 1969, her signature appeared as Dorothy Andrews Elston. Her signature changed to Dorothy Andrews Kabis after she married Walter L. Kabis on September 17, 1969. These signatures can be found on the 1969 series and 1969A notes.

Now focus on the signature on the right side of the note—that of the Secretary of the Treasury. Our present Secretary of State, George P. Schultz, was Secretary of the Treasury during 1971–1974, under President Nixon (series 1969D) notes. He replaced another person who has been in the news recently—John B. Connally of Texas who lost his multi-million dollar empire and had to file for bankruptcy. His signature as Secretary of the Treasury appears on the 1969B series and 1969C notes. Mr. Connally has a Hawaii connection that dates back to World War Two. On October 21, 1963, while he was governor of the state of Texas, he signed a proclamation designating all former members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team as honorary Texans. The proclamation was in recognition of combat actions in France during October–November 1944, when the 442nd was attached to the 36th (Texas) Infantry Division.

Another signatory (series 1974 notes) is becoming familiar to Hawaii residents. He is William E. Simon whose company now owns Honolulu Federal Savings and Loan. On a more recent series (1981 and 1981A) is the signature of Donald T. Regan who later was forced to resign as President Reagan's Chief of Staff due to accusations that he used his White House connections for "influence peddling." The series referred to above is the date that appears to the left of the signature of the Secretary of the Treasury.





A TOUCH OF HAWAIIANA



HAWAIIAN WAX MUSEUM TOKEN

BY GARY LAU

The former Hawaiian Wax Museum opened for business on February 4, 1965, and was located at 2340 Kalakaua Avenue. With \$160,000 worth of investments, Frank Jeckell (president of the museum), opened the doors to the public. It was the only wax museum in the world that depicted the history of a land and its people. The museum shows the history of Hawaii from the early Polynesians to our annexation to the United States in 1898.

Upon your arrival at the museum you were greeted by a statue of the great Duke Kahanamoku. You then toured through 18 scenes and 59 wax statues that ranged from whaling ships off Lahaina, the first sugar mill built on the island of Lanai in 1802, as well as the missionary matrons introducing the full-length gowns, now known as muumuus, to the natives.

The wax statues were all molded by Tom and Katharine Keller of Los Angeles. Mrs. Keller was a third generation wax worker, whose grandfather's original wax formula was used for their sculptures. The glass eyes were brought in from Germany and the human hair used was from Italy. At the time, the cost of a single figure could range from \$1,000 to \$3,500. It took about eight months for the figures to be completed.

The cost of admission to the museum was \$1.50 for adults, \$1.00 for students and servicemen, and \$.75 for children. Tokens were distributed for admission to the wax museum. They were 21mm round medals, but were made in different metals. The child's token was steel, student—nickel, serviceman—copper, and adult—brass. The tokens were not too hard to find a few years ago, but like everything else, they are now a sought-after collector's item.

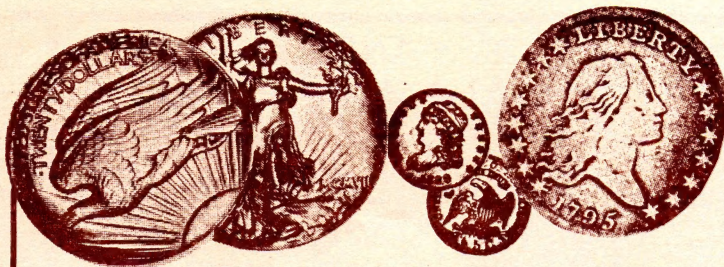
HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

will be celebrating it's

25TH ANNIVERSARY

at the November 10-13 1988 Coin Show.

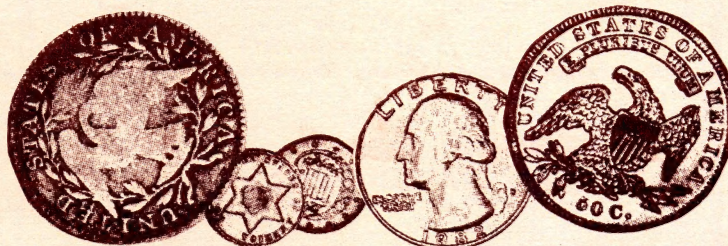
Come join us at Queen Kapiolani Hotel.



Hey, Juniors!

How about writing a coin story?
Maybe a story about your favorite
coin, how to collect coins, or stories
about different coins like the Lincoln
cent or Jefferson nickel.

Just imagine having your story in
our newsletter! So, put on your
thinking caps and write a story for
us. Will have it in our keiki's corner.



HONOLULU COIN CLUB

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